

May 7, 1975

beginning with members in line 23 through the period on page 4, line 7. Insert new sections 2 and 3 as follows. Section 2, The following election procedure shall be applicable to all class 2, 3, 4 and 6 districts. The election commissioner or county clerk of the county in which the greater part of each district is located shall divide such districts into as many numbered districts as . . . of compact and contiguous territory and as nearly equal population as may be practical as members of such school board. A member of the board shall be elected from each such district.

Section 3. Members of the board of education of class 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 districts on the effective date of this act shall serve until expiration of their terms. At the general election in 1976 and each four years thereafter one member shall be elected from each of the even numbered districts. At the general election in 1978 and each of the four years thereafter one member shall be elected from each of the odd numbered districts. The election commissioner or county clerk shall adjust the boundaries of such district to conform the changes to changes within the territory of the school district and the following following each federal decennial census. Renumber original sections 2 and 3 as sections 4 and 5. The purpose of this amendment is to include class 2, 3, 4 and 6 school districts and the proposed election of school board members by district as called for in LB 423, which in its present form would apply only to class 5 districts or Omaha. I support the proposed amendment for three reasons. If the district election is good enough for Omaha it should also be good for other school districts. If the Legislature intends to have this procedure in Omaha it should also apply to other school districts. The idea is discriminatory if applied to only one class of school districts. I hope you will vote for this amendment and let's treat all classes of school districts alike.

PRESIDENT: Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President, members of the Legislature. I don't believe that Senator Savage drafted that amendment. I believe that it was given to him and the aim was to try to put something on the bill that would require a public hearing that would be obnoxious to the members of this Legislature, which is irrational because it says that with all of the differences in size, population and types of problems. The same type of rules should be applied to all these districts. I've said time, after time as have various members of this Legislature that the statutes recognize different classifications of schools based on size and other considerations. The laws relating to these districts are different based on those differences and the makeup of the system. I say again, in Omaha there are more students in the public schools than there are people in certain towns in Nebraska. Under Senator Savages ill conceived notion you would take a city that had fewer people altogether than the number of students in the Omaha schools, and say that a rule applying to that district can apply equally well to Omaha. When we deal with county elections, or county sheriff's departments,